

REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections to the claims set forth in the Office Action of May 5, 2004 are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Status of the claims

Claims 1-7 are pending.

Claims 1-7 stand rejected.

Claim 1 has been amended.

Claims 2-5 and 7 have been canceled.

New claims 8-17 have been submitted.

No new matter has been added as a result of the amendments to the claims.

Priority

Applicant thanks the Examiner for perfecting the claim for foreign priority.

Specification

In order to facilitate examination, Applicant has canceled the original specification and replaced it with the enclosed substituted specification, which has been amended to correct numerous minor typographical and grammatical errors. No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections Under Section 112, Second Paragraph

The Examiner has rejected claims 2-5 and 7, claiming a lack of a proper antecedent basis for several claim elements. Claim 1 has been amended to refer to *an address* and *an online computer*, as opposed to addresses and computers. Claims 2-5 and 7 have been canceled and are replaced by new claims 8-17 that all depend on claim 1. Applicant respectfully submits that the elements of these new claims all have a proper antecedent basis, either within the new claims

themselves or in independent claim 1 form which each new claim depends. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Rejection of Independent Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected independent claims 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,243,443 to Low et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,594,254 to Kelly.

The Examiner argues that “Low teaches a method for assigning addresses in full digital code, the method comprising using the full digital code address (FDCA), which comprises an online number, said online number comprising the digital number of an established network site, (col. 11, line 62 through col. 12, line 3); a telephone number of the user’s company or home, and a category number, the category number comprising the digital number, (col. 7, lines 42-62).”

Applicant respectfully submits that Low et al. does not disclose “a method for assigning addresses in full digital code, the method comprising using the full digital code address (FDCA), which comprises an online number, said online number comprising the digital number of an established network site an online number,” either at col. 7, lines 42-62, or elsewhere. Applicant further submits that Low et al. does not disclose such a method for assigning to an online computer an FDCA comprising “a telephone number of the user’s company or home, and a category number, the category number comprising the digital number,” either at col. 7, lines 42-62, or elsewhere in the specification.

Low et al., in fact, “relates to a method for making available content resources to users of a telephone network [such as] a PSTN, PLMN or private telephone network.” Col. 1, lns. 6-10. According to Low et al., the content resources are “provided on at least one server connected to a computer network that is generally accessible to users of the telephone network but logically distinct therefrom, said content resources each being associated with a respective predetermined

code and being locatable on said computer network by corresponding known URIs.” Col. 7, lns. 44-50. A URI, or uniform resource indicator, is either a URL (uniform resource locator) or a URN (uniform resource name) that can be resolved into a URL. Col. 5, lns. 5-27. Further, said predetermined code is formed “using at least a part of one of: a number dialed from user telephone, and the telephone number of said user telephone.” Col. 7, lns. 56-62 (emphasis added).

In contrast, claim 1 recites a method “*for assigning a unique full digital code address (FDCA) to an online computer*, the method comprising assigning to said computer an FDCA which comprises: an online number, said online number comprising the digital number of an established network site, which number is specified by the country or area; a telephone number, said telephone number comprising the IDDD code of the country where a computer user is located, the area code of the domestic DDD of the user’s area, and the telephone number of the user’s company or home; and a category number, the category number comprising the digital number specified by the country or area for uniformly demarcating the business category.”

Since Low et al. merely discloses the use of a predetermined code for accessing *from a telephone and across a telephone network* content resources *disposed on a server connected to a computer network*, Applicant respectfully asserts that Low et al. neither discloses nor suggests the limitation of independent claim 1 of *assigning a Full Digital Code Address*, or FDCA, *to an online computer*. Indeed, the predetermined code of Low et al. that is entered into the user’s telephone is based on standard IP addresses and, thus, merely serves as an indicator rather than an actual full digital address. In any event, since Low et al. merely disclose that said predetermined code includes one or more of *a number dialed from the user’s telephone*, and *the telephone number of said user telephone*, Applicant respectfully asserts that Low et al. can

neither disclose nor suggest the limitation of claim 1 of said FDCA comprising: *an online number*, said online number comprising *the digital number of an established network site*, which number is specified by the country or area; a telephone number, said telephone number comprising the IDDD code of the country where a computer user is located, the area code of the domestic DDD of the user's area, and the telephone number of the user's company or home; and *a category number*, the category number comprising the digital number specified by the country or area for uniformly demarcating the business category.

Having argued that Low et al. "shows substantially similar features of the claimed invention, [but] fails to expressly disclose: a number being specified by the country or area," the Examiner further argues that, "in a similar field of endeavor, Kelly discloses a method for translating a domain name into a network protocol address comprising: a telephone number (the domain name) being specified by a country and an area." As set forth above, Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's argument that Low et al. "shows substantially similar features of the claimed invention." Further, Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's characterization of Kelly.

In a similar vein to the disclosure of Low et al., Kelly relates "to a technique for enabling communication connections between circuit-switched communications networks and packet-switched data processing networks." Col. 1, lines 61-63. In particular, "Kelly relates to "a method for resolving data representing a telephone number compris[ing] the steps of receiving a telephone number domain name identifying a telephone number from a source, resolving the telephone number domain name into a network protocol address, and supplying a network protocol address to the source." Col. 3, lns. 50-56. As such, Kelly neither discloses nor suggests the limitation of independent claim 1 of *assigning a Full Digital Code Address*, or FDCA, to an

online computer. Indeed, since Kelly is based on the conversion of a number which contains a telephone number used in a conventional telephone network into a standard Internet protocol addresses for use in a computer network, the disclosure of Kelly relates to use of a mere indicator that functions in lieu of the claimed actual digital address of an online computer for use on a digital computer network.

Accordingly, for at least the above reasons, the combination of Low et al. and Kelly can neither render obvious nor anticipate independent claim 1.

Dependent Claims 6 and 8-17

Claim 6 and new claims 8-17 all depend from claim 1, and so contain all of its limitations. Accordingly, because all of the elements of claim 1 are neither disclosed or even suggested by Kelly and Low et al., as set forth above, all of the elements of dependent claims 6 and 8-17 can neither be disclosed or even suggested by these same references. For at least this reason, and for the additional reasons set forth below, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent claims 6 and 8-17 are neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by the Low et al. and Kelly references relied upon by the Examiner.

Canceled claim 2 has been rewritten as new claims 8-11. The Examiner had rejected claim 2, arguing that “Low teaches an E-mail box being capable of being accessed, or the Internet capable of being browsed by inputting to a modem of a computer by dialing up a keyboard of a dial-up telephone or the keyboard of the computer, by linking the corresponding digital code, and by converting with a dedicated software.” (citing col. 10, lines 38-63). Applicant notes that, Low et al., referring to Figure 5, discloses: “In this example, the first part of the telephone number ‘333’ is actually a service designator pre-specified by the PSTN operator as characteristic of a content-item retrieval request. The second part of the telephone number

‘1234567’ is the actual content code for the desired item. As regards the nature of the content item, it will be taken to be a text string that can be converted to speech by resource 72 (resource 3) of the IP 70.” Col. 10, lines 56-61.

From the above description, it is clear that the number used in Low et al. is a mere indicator, rather than an actual address, since the number must be converted into a traditional address, such as IPv4 or IPv6 format, for further use across a digital network. Essentially, the conversion in Low et al. is between a number used in a PSTN network and a traditional Internet address. In contrast, the present invention, as claimed in claims 8-11, refers to a an online computer accessed using a *full digital code address*. As such, the “conversion” of claims 8-11 is a mapping between two digital addresses rather than simple conversion between a mere indicator and an actual address.

Canceled claim 3 has been rewritten as new claims 12-14. The Examiner had rejected claim 3, arguing that “Low teaches the FDCA being capable of being interpreted by the dedicated interpreting software into an IP address, or a domain name, or a Chinese domain name hierarchy system.” (citing col. 10, lines 38-50).” Applicant again notes that, the part of the disclosure of Low et al. that is relied on by the Examiner, discloses, with reference to Figure 5: “In this example, the first part of the telephone number ‘333’ is actually a service designator pre-specified by the PSTN operator as characteristic of a content-item retrieval request. The second part of the telephone number ‘1234567’ is the actual content code for the desired item. As regards the nature of the content item, it will be taken to be a text string that can be converted to speech by resource 72 (resource 3) of the IP 70.” Col. 10, lines 56-61. Accordingly, the “conversion” of claims 2-14 is a mapping between two digital addresses, rather than a simple

conversion between a mere indicator and an actual address, and cannot be anticipated or rendered obvious by Low et al.

Canceled claim 4 has been rewritten as new claims 15. The Examiner had rejected claim 4, arguing that “the teachings of Low provide a means for a subcategory number being capable of being directed after the category numbers by the FDCA.” (citing col. 7, lines 42-62). Applicant respectfully disagrees and submits that Low et al. does not disclose or suggest a category number specified by the country or area, respectively, for uniformly demarcating the business category, let alone the subcategory number following the category number.

Canceled claim 5 has been rewritten as new claims 16. The Examiner had rejected claim 5, arguing that “although the disclosed method of Low shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to expressly disclose: encrypting numbers. Nevertheless, encrypting numbers was well known in the art at the time of the invention. Kelly discloses: digital numbers being encrypted depending on the secure nature of the network.” (citing col. 16, lines 20-44). Applicant notes that Kelly, in fact, disclose the addiiton of a mere pin code. Obviously, a pin code is different from, and neither anticipates nor renders obvious, an encrypted number and, in particular, neither anticipates nor renders obvious the encrypted number digital number of the present invention as claimed in claim 16.

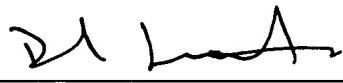
For at least the above reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that previously dependent and presented claim 6 and new dependent claims 8-17 are neither anticipated not rendered obvious by the prior art relied upon by the Examiner.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, the application is now believed to be in condition for formal allowance. Prompt and favorable action is respectfully requested. Applicant does not believe that any fee in addition that that enclosed for the three-month extension is required in connection with the submission of this document. However, should any additional fee be required, or if any overpayment has been made, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, or credit or any overpayments made, to Deposit Account 02-4377.

Respectfully submitted,
BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

By:


Jeffrey D. Sullivan
Patent Office Reg. No. 43,170

David Loretto
Patent Office Reg. No. 44,374

Attorneys for Applicant
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, NY 10012-4498
(212) 408-2500